

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Fifteenth Annual Session

—OF THE—

Columbia Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

Haleburg Baptist Church,

Henry County, Alabama, Nov. 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 1899

OFFICERS:

I. J. WHITE, Moderator, Dothan, Ala.

R. M. JACKSON, Clerk, Ashford, Ala.

B. J. FORRESTER, Treas., Cowarts, Ala.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

A. S. Fellows, C. C. Radney, Dan. Williams.

Next session to be held with the First Baptist Church, Ashford, Henry County, Alabama, on the A. M. R.

R., Wednesday before the first Sunday in November, 1900.

DOTHAN, ALA.
DOTHAN HOME JOURNAL.
1899.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Call to order by former Moderator.
- II. Introductory Sermon.
- III. Reading of Letters and Enrolling Delegates
- IV. Organization.
- V. Petitionary Letters.
- VI. Call for Correspondents and Visiting Brethren.
- VII. Appointing Correspondents.
- VIII. Appointing Special Committees, as follows:
 1. On Preaching.
 2. On Finance.
 3. On Nominations.
 4. On Deceased Ministers and Deacons.
 5. On Time and Place.
 6. On Documents.
- IX. Report of Standing Committees, as follows:
 1. Executive Committee.
 2. Treasurer.
 3. Temperance.
 4. Orphanage.
 5. Missions, (1) State, (2) Home, (3) Foreign.
 6. Education.
 7. Sunday Schools.
 8. Ministerial Education.
- X. Report of Special Committees.
- XI. Miscellaneous Business.

MINUTES.

HALEBURG, ALA., Nov. 1st, 1899.

1. The Columbia Baptist Association met this day, in its Fifteenth Annual Session, in the meeting house of the Haleburg Baptist church.

2. Devotional services were conducted by Rev. G. J. Conant, after which the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. A. Howard from 3rd John, 8th verse.

3. The former Moderator, Rev. I. A. White, called for the letters from the churches, which were read by Brethren G. L. Campbell and A. J. Preston, and delegates enrolled as follows:

Annie York---J. C. Shiver, W. P. Horn.

Ashford---C. C. Radney.

Balkum---J. A. Summerford.

Bay Springs---W. M. Fortson, J. W. Fortson.

Bethel---J. D. Prevatt.

Bethlehem---W. H. Jerkins, W. A. Darby.

Bluff Springs---J. G. B. Watson, M. A. Nowell, N. R. Stewart.

Camp Springs---J. H. Lane, W. H. Howard.

Columbia---W. P. Stewart, G. L. Campbell, P. G. Thompson.

Corinth---Whit. Clark, S. Franklin.

Cowarts---Milus Kirkland.

Dothan---Evetus Whiddon.

Ebenezer---W. C. King, H. B. King.

Enterprise---B. J. Hall.

Gordon---Samuel Bowden.

Haleburg---L. L. Tinsley, S. T. Hall, W. R. Hall, M. J. Ward.

Mt. Arrarat---Joe McCorkle, L. D. Kirkland, J. E. Brown.

Mt. Gilead---John Carroll.

Mt. Pleasant---Aris Armstrong.

New Providence---Andrew McNeal.

Pilgrims' Rest---W. P. Jordan, R. J. Pelham.

Pleasant Plains---L. A. Kirkland, J. W. Bracken.

Pleasant Grove---L. A. White.

Pleasant Hill---J. E. Whitehead, W. J. Coley.

Rehoboth---M. V. White.

Selma---H. L. Lisenby, J. T. Tidwell.

Shiloh---J. A. Culbreth, W. D. Knowles.

4. The Association was permanently organized by re-electing, by acclamation, the former officers, to-wit: Rev. I. A.

White, Moderator; R. M. Jackson, Clerk; Hon. B. A. Forrester, Treasurer.

5. The congregation joined in singing, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," and was led in prayer by Rev. I. A. White. Adjourned until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

6. The Association met at the appointed hour and was led in prayer by Rev. W. P. Stewart.

7. The Moderator called the Association to order.

8. Call for petitionary letters. Received a letter from Bethlehem Church in Dale county, Ala. Petition granted and the messengers given the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator and they were welcomed and seated.

9. The following correspondents and visiting brethren were received and welcomed by the Moderator in behalf of the body: Rev. J. A. Howard, of the Alabama Baptist; Rev. A. J. Preston, State Board of Missions; Geneva Association, Rev. G. J. Canant, S. T. Starling; Judson Association, Revs. W. H. F. Smith, D. E. Burdeshaw, Wm. J. Martin and Bro. A. J. Armstrong; Newton Association, J. W. Floyd.

10. Volunteer correspondents as follows: To the West Florida Association, J. J. White, W. P. Stewart, W. P. Jordan; Geneva Association, M. V. White; Newton Association, M. V. White, W. A. Darby; Judson Association, S. T. Hall, I. A. White, W. P. Stewart, J. J. White, Aris Armstrong, H. L. Lisenby.

11. The Moderator appointed the following special committees, to report at this session:

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—N. S. Fellows, T. J. Howard, S. Franklin.

On Preaching—Pastor and Deacons of this church.

On Finance—G. L. Campbell, Milus Kirkland, Dan. Williams.

On Nominations—B. A. Forrester, J. G. B. Watson, J. A. Summerford.

On Time and Place—N. S. Fellows, H. L. Lisenby, M. A. Nowell.

On Documents—J. J. White, J. A. Culbreth, Z. Deese.

12. In the absence of the committee on Home Missions the Moderator appointed Samuel Bowden, Eretus Whiddon and C. C. Radney to make a report on Home Missions at this session.

13. On Education—J. A. Summerford, L. A. Kirkland.

14. Upon call for report of Executive Committee, Bro. N. S. Fellows, chairman, was given time to make out a report.

15. Bro. B. A. Forrester read the

TREASURER'S REPORT.

B. A. Forrester in account with Columbia Association:	
Nov. 2, 1898, By balance on hand.....	\$ 11.04
“ “ “ “ cash recd. from Finance Com.	226.88
	\$237.92
Nov. 16, 1898, To pd J. W. Stewart, Orphanage.....	\$67.96
“ “ “ “ “ A. J. Preston, State Mis.	32.93
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Home “ ...	28.84
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Foreign “ ...	50.39
“ “ “ “ “ R. M. Jackson, cl'ks fee.	25.00
“ “ “ “ “ J. C. Skipper, appropriation	3.55
April 4, “ “ “ Williams, pr'tg. minutes... ..	27.00
“ “ “ “ balance on hand.....	2.25
	\$237.92

Report adopted.

B. A. FORRESTER, Treas.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, make the following report: We feel to hope that temperance, so far as strong drink is concerned, is gaining friends among the people, and church members are becoming more and more impressed each month with the importance of observing a higher order of temperance among themselves. While we are not as temperate in our talk as we ought to be, a high representative body as we are. And we would further insist that all of the churches should form rules to exclude at once for the offense of drunkenness, as some of our churches have done, and notice more carefully this dram drinking, which we feel to be so hurtful to the young of our day.

W. P. STEWART,

J. M. RODGERS,

W. P. JORDAN,

Committee.

The report was spoken to by W. P. Stewart, J. A. Howard, A. J. Preston, D. E. Burdeshaw and I. A. White, after which the report was adopted.

17. A committee on Hospitality, composed of members of Haleburg church, asked permission to read a statement assigning delegates and visitors to homes for entertainment

during session of the body.

REPORT ON PREACHING.

18. Committee on presented report as follows:

We, your committee, submit the following: Bro. I. A. White to preach in this house to-morrow at 11 a. m.; Bro. G. J. Canant to preach in the M. E. church to-morrow at 11 a. m.; Friday, Bro. J. J. White to preach in this house at 11 a. m., and Bro. D. E. Burdeshaw in the M. E. church at the same hour.

W. H. F. SMITH,

L. L. TINSLEY,

S. T. HALL,

Committee.

19. On motion of W. P. Stewart the hours for meeting were fixed at 8:30 a. m., to begin with devotional services.

20. On motion of B. A. Forrester adjourned until 8:30 a. m. Thursday. Benediction by Rev. J. A. Howard.

SECOND DAY---MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, Nov. 2nd, 1899.

21. The Association met at the appointed hour: Rev. J. D. Prevatt led the devotional exercises.

22. The minutes of the previous day were read, corrected and approved.

THE ORPHANAGE.

23. The committee on Orphanage reported as follows:

Failing to get any report from our beloved Bro. Stewart, who is the Secretary of the Home, we cannot give the conditions of the same, yet we will venture to assert that they are needing all the help that charity will afford. Then the question naturally presents itself: What are we all doing for the fatherless? The Psalmist David reminded Israel of their duty to the fatherless, yet they say, "The Lord shall not see." He also teaches them the manner in which God preserveth the fatherless, and says those that neglect them shall be turned up side down. The Prophet Jeremiah also, in his teachings to Judah, says if they would not oppress the fatherless, then will I cause you to dwell in the land I gave you forever. But they refused to hearken unto the Lord, and stopped their ears that they should not hear, lest they should hear the law and the words which the Lord had sent them in his Spirit. Therefore the Lord sent his wrath upon them and scattered them with a whirlwind, and their land was

made desolate. Now to the question. Brethren, sisters and fellow-citizens of this great government of which we are so proud, has the law of giving ever been repealed? We answer no. Then do we not have orphans in this present age as there were in the days of the prophets? Yes, and the same injunctions are upon us. Then if we stop our ears to the cries of the helpless orphans are we not following after the same example of the disobedient in the days of the Prophets? I shall answer for one, yes. In an article written by Clara Barton from Cuba to the New York World, she says to-day there are fifty thousand destitute orphan children in Cuba whose parents have, in the last few years, died of starvation. Many are children of the best Cuban families. She says they range from seventy-five to one hundred in the various towns, utterly homeless and destitute. She says they are making small asylums and interesting the people in securing their full co-operation in providing for their wants. The women regard these asylums as something quite their own. In nearly every town a young ladies' club is formed and do all they can in giving and teaching these orphans. Can't the ladies in the Columbia Association form into clubs or societies in every church or community, let there be towns or not, and do some good work this next year for the Orphan's Home at Evergreen? Don't stop your ears to their cries, for the Lord has a purpose in all his handy work and will ever bless them that give to the poor and needy.

Yours,

B. A. FORRESTER.

The report was spoken on by Brethren A. J. Preston, I. A. White, Jno. T. Davis, J. A. Howard, B. A. Forrester, the latter ending his speech with a contribution, followed by the Association, to the amount of twenty dollars, after which the report was adopted.

STATE MISSIONS.

24. There has been little doing during the past year beyond paying the old debts against the board. Two Evangelists, Brethren Preston and Sandlin, have been kept in the field and some aid extended to weak points. We hope that the mist is clearing and that a larger work will be attempted and accomplished next year. We welcome back to the work Bro. W. B. Crumpton as secretary, and promise him our prayers and co-operation. We urge the churches to give more systematically, oftener and more largely to this cause.

which is the foundation of all our missions.

G. L. CAMPBELL.

HOME MISSIONS.

25. We, your committee on Home Missions, on short notice are forced to make a very incomplete report. We know that the work being done for Home Missions is increasing. The work comprises all of the Southern States, the Indian Territories and Cuba. We are doing a great deal of work in destitute places and in the slums of our cities. Cuba's needs are very great and we should do a great deal more than we are now doing for her. We think that there is a great field for work right in our own midst and we feel that it is very important for us to get ourselves right so that we can then make a good influential impression upon our foreign people. Although we are strong advocates of Foreign Missions, yet we believe we should first get home right and then we are prepared to help our neighbors.

SAMUEL BOWDEN,

E. J. WHIDDON,

C. C. RADNEY,

Committee.

The reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were presented in immediate succession and read by chairmen of their respective committees.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

26. Bro. Preston read as follows:

DEAR BRETHREN: That the gospel should be preached to every creature, as commanded by our Lord, there can be no question. We all read the commission alike, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," but we differ as to the how of obeying this command. To my mind the best thing for us to do is to accept the plan adopted by the Apostles. They went everywhere preaching the gospel, but they did not go to warfare at their own charge. God did not send them without putting the church back of them. After God had called Saul to go for hence to the Gentiles, He called the church at Antioch to separate Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto He had called them. Then while Paul preached to the heathen at Corinth, the churches of Macedonia supplied his wants. Unless God has changed His plan he still calls men to go to the Gentiles, and then calls upon

us to send them forth and support them. This we are trying to do. We have now nearly one hundred missionaries in foreign fields besides about as many native helpers. This number could be easily doubled if we would only wake up to our duty. Brethren, there are to-day thousands crying for the bread of life. Will you feed them? Millions are pleading for the waters of life. Will you give them drink? Many are clad only in the rags of superstition. Will you clothe them with the beautiful garments of Christ's righteousness? They are strangers. Will you take them in? They are sick and in prison. Will you visit them? The Lord help us to do our duty for the best.

Respectfully submitted,

ARIS ARMSTRONG, Chmn.

The subject of Missions was opened for discussion with Rev. Wm. J. Martin, of the Judson Association, in the chair. Thereport was discussed jointly by Brethren A. J. Preston and J. A. Howard. The hour for preaching having arrived the Association was led in prayer by Rev. J. J. White. Brother I. A. White preached in this house, using for a text, Romans, 1:14,15. Theme, Paying an unclaimed debt. Brother G. J. Canant preached in the M. E. church, using for a text, Ex. 14:15. Theme, Go forward. After these sermons a collection was taken at each place which amounted to \$14.75 at the Baptist church and \$2.10 at the M. E. church.

27. Adjourned until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

28. The Association met at the appointed hour and was led in prayer by Rev. Wm. J. Martin.

29. The subject of Missions was resumed and was further discussed by Brethren I. A. White and B. A. Forrester.

30. On motion of B. A. Forrester that we reaffirm our resolution of trying to raise 25c per member, and the following churches by their messengers promised by the help of God to raise the amount of 25c per member for missions for the next Associational year:

Annie York, Ashford, Balkum, Bay Spring, Bethel, Bethlehem, Bluff Springs, Camp Springs, Columbia, Corinth, Cowarts, Dothan, Ebenezer, Enterprise, Haleburg, Mt. Ararat, Mt. Gilead, Mt. Pleasant, New Providence, Pleasant Grove, Pleasant Plains, Pilgrims Rest, Rehoboth, Selma. The above report on missions adopted.

31. The letter from Liberty church was read and the messengers welcomed and seated.

32. Bro. J. A. Summerford read as follows the report on Education:

We, your committee appointed to report on Education, beg permission to say in the way of apology, that owing to short notice of the duties assigned us, we will not be able to render a report satisfactory to ourselves or do justice to this great subject, Education. But suffice us to say that it is our observation that education in all its branches is fast forcing its way to the front. We notice that all the rural settlements are being supplied with neat and comfortable school houses, that the cities of our Southland are building real temples of learning. Money is being spent more liberally for the cause of educational purposes than at any time in the past. The aspiration in all classes is more and more perceptible. We are beginning to realize that education and intellectual development is necessary for good government, both for Church and State. May God speed the day when the youth of our land may have their intellectual powers fully developed. It is with special pride that we point to the excellent condition of our denominational state institutions of learning. The Howard for young men, the Judson for young ladies. Their permanency is now assured, and the confidence in their future established beyond doubt.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. SUMMERFORD, Chairman.

The above report was ably discussed by Revs I. A. White and A. J. Preston, and the report was adopted.

33. On motion of J. J. White, adjourned until 8:30 Friday Nov. 3rd, 1899. Benediction by Rev. W. P. Stewart.

THIRD DAY---MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, NOV. 3RD, 1899.

34. The body met at the appointed hour, the moderator read the 67 Psalms. The association was led in prayer by Brother B. A. Forrester.

35. On motion of B. A. Forrester, to suspend the regular order of business, and set the hour at 10 a. m. to take up the report on Sunday schools. Motion prevailed.

36. Brother Milus Kirkland read as follows the report of the finance committee:

We, the Finance Committee, beg to submit this our report:

	Cash.	Vouchers.
Received for Missions.....	\$74.40	\$1,161.76
“ “ Ministerial Education.....	7.50	62.00
“ “ Orphans Home.....	50.86	95.15
“ “ Howard College.....		132.00
“ “ J. C. Skipper.....	75	
“ “ Minutes.....	33.30	
“ “ Associational Purposes....	15.90	
“ “ Greensborough Church.....		20.10

Total \$182.80 \$1,623.57

GEO. L. CAMPBELL,
MILUS KIRKLAND,
DAN WILLIAMS,

Report adopted.

Committee.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

37. Brother B. A. Forrester read as follows the report on Nominations.

We, your committee, recommend the following brethren as delegates to the State Convention: I. A. White, G. L. Campbell, G. W. Olliff, J. J. White, L. F. Oakley, Jno. T. Davis, S. T. Hall, W. P. Stewart, B. G. Farmer, Aris Armstrong. We also nominate I. A. White delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, Jno. T. Davis alternate. Rev. J. J. White to preach the introductory sermon at next session, Aris Armstrong alternate.

B. A. FORRESTER,
J. G. B. WATSON,
J. A. SUMMERFORD,

Report adopted

Committee.

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

38. Brother N. S. Fellows read as follows the report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

We, your committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, find by reading the letters, that through the goodness of God, that all our ministers and deacons have been spared to us through another Associational year for which we feel thankful to Him, who is the giver of all good and perfect gifts.

N. S. FELLOWS,
T. J. HOWARD,
S. FRANKLIN,

Committee.

The Association knelt in a prayer of thanks to God for all his mercies and benefits, lead by our venerable brother, H. L. Lisenby. After which the report was adopted.

39. Brother N. S. Fellows read as follows the report on Time and Place.

We, your committee, recommend that the next session of this body be held with the First Baptist church of Ashford, beginning on Wednesday before the first Sunday in November 1900, beginning at 10:30 o'clock.

N. S. FELLOWS,

H. L. LISENBY,

M. H. HOWELL,

Committee.

Report adopted.

40. Brother N. S. Fellows read as follows, the report of Executive committee.

We, your executive committee, find nothing to report. The duties guarded and looked into by us have been discharged. The money belonging to the Association has been disposed of as the Association ordered. Respectfully submitted.

Executive Committee { N. S. FELLOWS,

Report adopted.

C. C. RADNEY,

DAN WILLIAMS.

41. The Association re-elected the executive committee for the next Associational year.

42. Brother J. J. White read as follows the report on Documents.

We have looked over the letters from the different churches and find nothing of importance to report. Only the churches of Ashford and Annie York petition for the next session of this Association. Respectfully.

J. J. WHITE,

J. A. CULBRETH,

Z. DEESE.

Report adopted.

Committee.

43. Brother S. T. Hall read the report on Ministerial Education.

Dear Brethren: We would not for a moment disparage the work of our faithful servants who have not enjoyed the advantages of an education. Yet we desire to urge with all the emphases possible the importance of educating our young preachers. Paul commanded his son in the ministry to "Study." This has been necessary in all ages, and especially

so in the present age of progress. We have now about thirty young brethren preparing themselves in Howard College and the Seminary for more efficient work for the Master. Let us join with our brethren in supporting these young men as they pursue their studies in school and pray that the Lord may make of them able ministers of the New Testament.

Report submitted. S. T. HALL, Chairman committee.

Report was spoken on by Brethren Evitus Whiddon, B. A. Forrester, I. A. White, W. P. Stewart, and was adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

44. Brother J. J. White read as follows the report on Sunday Schools.

It has always been a strong thing to all Sabbath School advocates that there are so few workers in this noble enterprise. The greatest part of our membership say they believe in Sunday Schools, yet the large majority of them never attend or send their children. The writer's experience is that it is one of the best and safest employments for ourselves and our children, outside of regular church attendance. The time has been when the anti-Sabbath School spirit was only found in the anti-Mission denominations. In the present age it is likely to prevail in the ranks of the so-called Missionaries. Why is it thus? Mr. Sikes and his wife, Mr. Sidney Smith and others say they see no harm in it. No, they say it is a good thing. I believe most of pastors and evangelists, well, the ministry generally, agree that it is a grand church nursery, a church at work. Our experience is where a regular Sunday School is kept up the church wherein it is kept prospers. Such churches are more missionary too.

Respectfully,

J. J. WHITE,

H. A. JONES,

R. J. PELHAM,

Committee.

P. S. In giving attention to the reading of the Associational letters but six Sabbath Schools are reported. We recommend that the churches report their schools annually.

Committee.

The report was spoken on by Brethren J. J. White, B. A. Forrester, W. P. Stewart, W. H. Calhoun, J. B. Ward and then adopted.

45. The Moderator read as follows the report of The Woman's Meeting.

The Woman's Meeting of the Columbia Association met in their first session at Haleburg, Ala. Nov. 2nd at 10 a. m. 1899. Mrs. M. Cody in the chair, Mrs. John A. Hays, Recording Secretary. Response of welcome by Mrs. W. P. Stewart, followed by arranged programme, which was executed with interest and enthusiasm.

At 2 p. m. we met in business session, and arranged the following plan of work for ensuing year. The thirty Associational churches were divided into five districts, a lady appointed to each district to aid the vice-President in her duties. The ladies were also appointed to look after the orphanage in their respective districts. Mrs. John T. Davis was appointed to look after the aged and infirm Ministry. Reports were brought in from the following five Societies.

Columbia "Missionary and Aid Society."

Dothan "Willing Workers Society."

Haleburg "Aid Society."

Dothan "Missionary Society."

Cowarts "Missionary Society."

We had a most excellent meeting and feel that we have been Spiritually uplifted.

Respectfully submitted

MRS. R. B. STAPLETON,

Vice-President Columbia Association.

On Motion of Brother B. A. Forrester, the report was received, adopted and ordered spread on the minutes.

46. The Association granted the Moderator time to make out list of Standing Committees which appear elsewhere in the minutes.

47. Brother N. S. Fellows read as follows Resolution of Thanks.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby tendered the members of Haleburg church, and the good people of the surrounding community for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained this Association. And to our Methodist Brethren for the use of their house of Worship. And to our beloved brother, I. A. White, for the efficient manner in which he has presided over this session.

N. S. FELLOWS.

The above resolution adopted by the entire body rising to their feet.

48. On motion of Brother J. J. White. The clerk to have

\$25.00 for his services and to have 800 Minutes printed, or as many as we have money on hand to pay for.

Motion prevailed.

49. The business being over minutes of to-day read and adopted.

After an able Sermon, Preached by Brother J. J. White, the Association sang "Jesus Lover of my Soul," and extended the parting hand. Dismissed with benediction by Rev. J. J. White.

R. M. JACKSON,
Clerk.

L. A. WHITE,
Moderator.

NOTE. Our statistical table is full of errors for which I am not responsible. You will note there was reported last year 2,479, an increase of 392, a decrease of 196, which make our number 2,679, and yet the letters show that the present membership is 2,509, what has become of the 170. Brother Clerks please make careful reports, buy printed church letters, which only costs a trifle and fill them out correctly and no mistakes will be made.

CLERK.



Statistics of Columbia Association, 1890.

Constitution.

ART. 1. This union of churches shall be known and distinguished by the style and name of "The Columbia Baptist Association."

ART. 2 The object of the Association shall be to combine our Christian efforts for the purpose of carrying the appointed means of grace to dying men and women, and to regard all churches united under this constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Her principal object shall be to promote the declarative glory of God by extending His kingdom of grace on earth through the medium of preaching the gospel, and all other means within reach of a working christian organization.

ART. 3. This Association shall be composed of representatives from the churches as follows: Each church having one hundred members or less shall be entitled to two messengers, and to one additional messenger for every fifty members or fractional part thereof in excess of one hundred. But in the business of the Association, whenever the messengers from any church desire it, the vote shall be taken by churches, in which case each church shall be entitled to two votes.

ART. 4. The messengers when convened shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, and these officers shall be chosen by ballot, or otherwise as the body may desire at each annual meeting, and continue in office until their successors are chosen. Should any event transpire, so as to prevent any annual meeting of this Association, the Moderator shall have the power to call a meeting at any time and place, which meeting, when convened, shall have all the rights of a regular meeting.

ART. 5. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which she is composed. She shall regard them as independent bodies in all measures of internal government, and shall act in an advisory council, assuming no authority but what is expressly delegated to her by the churches or evenly implied by the very nature of the compact. But she nevertheless claims authority over her own members, the messengers of the churches, and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches that depart from the principles of the compact by helping opinions repugnant to the doctrines of the Scrip-

ture or are disorderly in practice.

ART. 6. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from Association of the same faith and order may be admitted into this union on sending up messengers to an annual meeting with a petition, and those messengers agreeing to the abstract principles adopted by the Association.

ART. 7. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association written communications specifying the names of messengers, members in fellowship, baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored since last session, and such other information as the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 8. This Association shall have a fund, supplied by voluntary contribution of the churches, and all moneys thus contributed, or otherwise received shall be transmitted through the finance committee to the Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot or otherwise, as the body may decide, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association.

ART. 9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of printed minutes of every session of this body and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

ART. 10. This Association, when convened, shall be governed by proper rules setting forth the duties of officers and such other matters necessary for a deliberative body, and may alter or amend such rules from time to time by a majority vote of the body in annual session.

ART. 11. The Executive Committee shall attend to such duties as may be imposed upon it by the Association and when the Association is not in session this Committee shall have power to fill vacancies that may occur.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered at a regular meeting of the Association by a vote of two thirds of the members present, provided such alteration or amendment is not disapproved of by a majority of the churches in their written communication to the next annual session of the body.

Decorum.

1st. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberation of the Association in session, preserve order, submit motions or other matter and announce results when passed on by the body. He may have the same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair is occupied,

but is not allowed to vote except the body be equally divided, in which case he shall give the casting vote.

2nd. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of the minutes of the proceedings in a clear and concise manner, and immediately after the adjournment of each annual session, to prepare a copy of the same for distribution to the churches for the payment of which he shall draw his draft upon the Treasurer of the Association.

3rd. The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all moneys coming into his hands, as well as the manner in which it is distributed. He shall only pay out money upon the order of the Association in session, or the Executive Committee in vacation. He shall render an annual statement to the Association of all funds received and distributed by him showing the balance, if any, remaining on hand.

4th. The Association shall not consider any query or other matter affecting the churches, unless they have first endeavored to solve the same and failed; nor any difficulty between churches, unless they have pursued the directions contained in the 18th chapter of Matthew and have not been able to bring about a settlement and reconciliation, in which case the Association shall take such matter under consideration, and act upon them or not at her discretion. []

5th. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation and be acted upon by the body, except in be withdrawn by the member who made it.

6th. Every person who speaks in debate, shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject of debate.

7th. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the body. And it shall be a violation of these rules for any member to abruptly break off or absent himself without leave of the body; and if he does so he shall be liable to reproof by the Moderator.

8. The Clerk, Treasurer and all members of the standing committees shall be entitled to the same privileges of speaking and voting as other members, except in cases where the interests of any individual church is to be affected by the matter at issue. In this latter case they may express their views, but shall not be allowed to vote.

9th. The rules may be altered or amended by a majority of the members in session.

Articles of Faith.

ART. 1. We believe in the existence of one only true and living God, and that he has made himself known to his people under the name of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the same in essence and equal in divine perfection. John 4:24. Ps. 147:5, Rom. 1:20, Jer. 10:10, Ex. 15:11, Rey. 4:6,8, John 10:30, John 5:17.

ART. 2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God and the only true rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Rom. 3:1, 2. 2 Tim. 3:15, Proverbs 30:5, 6, Rom. 2:12.

ART. 3 We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world; that they should be holy and without blame before him in love, having predestined them to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will. Tim. 1:8, 9. Eph. 1:3, 12, 1 Pet 1:1, 2, Rom. 8:28, 38, 2 Thess. 2:13, 14. Ex. 33:18, 19, Matt. 20:15, 2 Pet. 1:10, 11, Rom. 11:5, 6.

ART. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin. Gen. 1:27. Gen. 3:6, 24, Rom. 5:19, Eph. 2:1, 3 Ezek. 18:19, 20.

ART. 5. We believe in man's incompetency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own will and ability. Eph. 2:8, Matt. 8:11, Acts. 15:11, Isa. 53:4, 5, Heb. 7:25.

ART. 6. We believe sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ. Act. 13:39, Rom. 5:17, Rom. 4:4, 5, Rom. 5:10, Rom. 5:1, 2, Rom. 5:9.

ART. 7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost. John 3:3, John 3:6, 7, 8, 2, Cor. 5:17, John 1:13, James 1:14, 18, 1 John 5:1.

ART. 8. We believe that nothing can separate the true believers from the love of God, but that they will be kept by the power of God through faith and salvation. John 8:31; 1 John 2:19; Rom. 8:8; Phil. 1:6; Phil. 2:12, 13.

ART. 9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and that immersion only is baptism. Acts. 8:36, 39; Matt. 3:5, 6; Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; Acts 2:41, 42.

ART. 10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgement. 1 Pet. 4:7; Acts 24:15; Matt. 13:49; Matt.

25:31, 46, Acts, 1:11.

ART. 11. We believe the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of righteous will be enernal. Mal. 3:18; 1 John 5:19; Prov. 14:32; Luke 16:25; John 8:21, 24. Matt. 7:13, 14.

ART. 12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinance unless he is called of God, and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery, and is in fellowship in the church of which he is a member. 1 Cor. 1:1, 13; 2 Cor. 8:5, 1 Cor. 11:2; Rom. 16:17, 20; 1 Cor. 4:17.

ART. 13. We believe that a proper administrator of the ordinance of baptism should be called of God, set apart by the Presbytery and in full fellowship with the church of which he is a member. Phil. 1:1; Acts 14:23; 1 Tim. 3; Titus 1.





LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS WITH MEMBERSHIP IN
THE COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION.

NAME.	POSTOFFICE.	COUNTY.	STATE.
Armstrong, Aris,	Headland,	Henry	Ala.
Courtney, J. D.,	Fadette,	Geneva	"
Deese, Z.,	Kincey,	Henry	"
Fordham, B. J.,	Pleasant Plains,	"	"
Gilmore, M. P.,	Cottonwood,	"	"
Keyton, J. R.,	Dothan,	"	"
Lisenby, H. L.,	Dothan,	"	"
Nowell, A. M.,	Columbia,	"	"
Ollif, G. W.,	Ashford,	"	"
Pearce, J. D.,	Harper,	"	"
Prevatt, J. D.,	Dothan,	"	"
Skipper, J. C.,	Dothan,	"	"
Skipper, M. M.,	Dothan,	"	"
Spivey, S. T.,	Dothan,	"	"
Stewart, W. P.,	Columbia,	"	"
White, J. J.,	Cowarts,	"	"
White, I. A.,	Dothan,	"	"
Williford, S.,	Watford,	Geneva,	"

STANDING COMMITTEES:

TEMPERANCE--J. R. Keyton, W. P. Jordan, J. C. Shiver.
 ORPHANAGE--W. P. Stewart, G. W. Ollif, L. A. Kirkland.
 STATE MISSIONS--J. A. Summerford, Samuel Bowden, Aris Armstrong.
 HOME MISSIONS--J. J. White, J. R. G. Howell, S. T. Hall.
 FOREIGN MISSIONS--G. L. Campbell, A. F. Sinquefield, S. Williford.
 EDUCATION--M. S. Davie, Jr., W. M. Fortson, J. D. Prevatt.
 SUNDAY SCHOOLS--B. G. Farmer, B. A. Forrester, Joe McCorcle.
 MINISTERIAL EDUCATION--Jno. T. Davis, Eritus Whiddon, Milus Kirkland.